

ABSTRACT

A digital communication receiver (300) communicates with a digital communication transmitter across a communication channel and has: a channel estimator (330), which provides a channel estimate (H_0) of the communication channel based on a received signal (y_t); an equalizer (340), which estimates a sequence of transmitted symbols (u_t) and provides a sequence of decided symbols (\hat{u}_t) based on the received signal and the channel estimate; and a channel tracker (350), which produces an updated channel estimate (H_t) based on the received signal (y_t) and the decided symbols (\hat{u}_t), and which supplies the updated channel estimate to the equalizer. The digital communication receiver (300) also has a controller (370), which receives channel quality indicative data (Metric) associated with an output from the equalizer, determines whether these data fail to meet a predetermined criterion, and, if so, supplies an enabling control signal ("Tracker y/n?") to the channel tracker, so that the channel tracker will switch from a disabled state, in which no updated channel estimate (H_t) is produced, to an enabled state, in which said updated channel estimate (H_t) is produced.

To be published together with FIG 3.